

**The Episcopal Church of St. Martin**  
**EXTENDED ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF August 20, 2023**

***This Week***

**Sunday Bible Study after 10am Service**

The first readings from the Lectionary for June, July, and August 2023 mainly feature stories from the book of Genesis. We are gathering after coffee hour each Sunday through August 27 to discuss these often puzzling, foundational stories in the Judeo-Christian tradition. Bring a lunch or just a coffee and an extra cookie. Drop-ins are welcome. Vestry member Colette Chabbott will facilitate the discussion. Meet in Room 6/7.

**Nursery Open**

Our nursery is open on Sundays from 9:30 - 11:30am for infants through age 5. Godly Play will not be meeting this summer and will be back again for children K - 6th grade on September 10. The front left pews in church are for families with children who wish to sit up front. We have coloring materials and quiet toys in this area. Children of all ages are always welcome in church!

**Zoom Coffee Hour after the 10am Service for Those Attending Online**

We have Zoom coffee hour after the 10am service. Those who are online are welcome to join us by staying on the Zoom call after the service ends. This week, Helen Campbell will share her experience on a recent paddleboat trip. And for those of you coming to church in person, we have coffee hour after the 10am service either on the patio or in the parish hall.

**“The Year to Save the Earth,” a Musical and Multimedia Experience by Jim Scott**

The Unitarian Universalist Church is inviting all to “The Year to Save the Earth: A Musical and Multimedia Experience” on Sunday, August 20 at 7pm at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Davis, 27074 Patwin Road in Davis. Composer Jim Scott received a grant from the National Education Association to present the program, which pairs his outspoken and celebratory songs with beautiful and striking images. Scott’s melodies and poetry celebrate what is beautiful, amazing, and fragile, nurturing a spirit of collective action for our planet. For more information about Scott and his music, visit <https://jimscottmusic.com/>

***Next Week***

**Follow-Up to Advance Care Workshop, Sunday, August 27 at 11:30am**

As a follow-up to the July Advance Care Workshop, Caring Ministries will host a drop-in session where Deacon Margaret and Diane Bamforth will be available from 11:30am to 1pm in Room 8 to answer questions about advance directives. They are also available to witness your forms. If you prefer to have a private discussion, Deacon Margaret is available. Just contact her ([margaret@churchofstmartin.org](mailto:margaret@churchofstmartin.org)) to set up an appointment.

***Other Important Updates***

**Homecoming/Kick-Off Sunday Raffle Prizes Needed**

September 24th is Homecoming/Kick-Off Sunday, the day we celebrate the beginning of our program year and welcome our rector back from sabbatical. Please help make this celebration special. We are hosting a raffle and are looking for prizes. Not sure what to donate? Some examples include gift certificates, gift baskets, or tickets to an event. You could also share your

talents with your fellow parishioners. Are you good at crafts? Donate your jam or a quilt. Are you a photographer? Donate a photo session. Are you a chef? Donate a cooking lesson. Think outside the box. We thank you for your ongoing support and look forward to making this event a great way to start the program year! Contact the church office or Gabe Avila ([communications@churchofstmartin.org](mailto:communications@churchofstmartin.org)) to tell us if you have items to donate.

### **Godly Play Begins September 10 - Registration Open**

Godly Play begins on September 10, 2023 for children in kindergarten through 6th grade. Godly Play meets at 10am in Room 4 **every Sunday except the first Sunday of each month**. Children are brought back to the sanctuary in time to have Communion with their families.

**Please register your child(ren) for Godly Play at this link:**

<https://forms.gle/2Sa71iJs2NMEbsJm6>

If you prefer to register in person, we will have registration forms available in the narthex on Sundays. You can give completed forms to Rev. Debbie, Gabe Avila, Janet Lane, or Sheri Reynolds. For more information about the program, go to the registration link above and click on “What is Godly Play?” There you will also see a link to a YouTube video on Godly Play. You are also welcome to visit our Godly Play Classroom (Room 4) any time. For questions, talk to Rev. Debbie or Sheri Reynolds. Sheri’s contact information is in the directory. If you have not gotten a directory, please email [info@churchofstmartin.org](mailto:info@churchofstmartin.org).

### **Resource Material on Wills and Planned Giving**

Many thanks to those who participated in the workshop on Wills and Planned Giving led by Susan Soesbe of Soesbe Financial. Handouts from the workshop are available in the office. The slides from the presentation are available [HERE](#). If you have any questions, please be in touch with Treasurer Jessie Ann Owens ([treasurer@churchofstmartin.org](mailto:treasurer@churchofstmartin.org)).

### **Treasurer’s Report, August 2023**

There is good news: our pledge income is slightly ahead of the budgeted amount, and income from the plate is well ahead. The Vestry approved a deficit budget for 2023, projecting a roughly \$57,000 deficit. But there were expectations that some of that could be made up. There is good news on that front as well. The approval of our request for apportionment relief—the money we pay each month to the Diocese—through the diocesan Creative Staffing Initiative (essentially the reconfiguration of Gabe’s position to deal with the need for Zoom church) has given us substantial savings. We were also successful in our application for the Federal Employee Retention Tax Credit. It is too early to say whether we will end the year in the black, but I am optimistic. A cautionary note, however. These two sources of revenue are one-time only and help us with the 2023 budget. But we do not want to be adopting a deficit budget going forward. The Budget and Finance Committee and the Vestry will have difficult decisions to make for the 2024 budget.

—Jessie Ann Owens

### **St. Martin's in the News!**

As part of their series, “Growing a Green Church,” the Episcopal News Service published an article on St. Martin’s journey to becoming carbon neutral. They write, “By 2018, St. Martin’s had reduced its carbon footprint by about 60%, its annual natural gas bill by 50% and grid

electricity bills by 75%, with overall energy costs reduced by nearly 20%...The church's solar panels connect to Pacific Gas & Electric's grid, which supplies electricity via renewables including the sun, wind and water. With the switch to an all-electric HVAC system and the 2021 installation of the last solar array on the roof of the Sunday school classroom building, St. Martin's achieved net-zero carbon." Great job to all involved and to all who are working toward carbon neutrality in their homes and faith communities! Read the full article here:

<https://tinyurl.com/StMartsCarbonNeutral>

### **Information on Education for Ministry (EfM)**

EfM is a small-group seminar program, where everyone participates and contributes. Along with study and prayer, through a process called theological reflection, you'll enjoy guided conversations that you rarely have with others on topics as diverse as a loaf of bread and Black Lives Matter. EfM is not intended as a path toward ordination; rather, EfM encourages participants to ask, "What is my personal ministry?" Are you interested in learning more about EfM? For information or questions, please contact the office ([info@churchofstmartin.org](mailto:info@churchofstmartin.org)), and we will put you in touch with Barbara Phillips-Barrett, EfM Coordinator for the Diocese of Northern California.

### ***Serving Others and Volunteering***

#### **A Message from Bishop Megan on the Hawaii Fires**

Bishop Megan issued a statement on the fires that ravaged Hawaii last week and have taken the lives of more than 110 people. Among the destruction is the loss of Holy Innocents Episcopal Church in Lahaina, including its sanctuary, vicarage, office and preschool. Bishop Megan calls for us to pray for all affected by these fires and to give as we are able. Read Bishop Megan's Full Statement: <https://www.norcalepiscopal.org/hawaii-fires/>

Donate to the Bishop's Disaster Fund:

[https://secure.accesssacs.com/access/oglogin.aspx?sn=159790&f=6&fbclid=IwAR09msOU5Aspbopfq\\_19vGOMS9OPKZCiy3tgMpgagKL2NVXJwVoV67fXjvU](https://secure.accesssacs.com/access/oglogin.aspx?sn=159790&f=6&fbclid=IwAR09msOU5Aspbopfq_19vGOMS9OPKZCiy3tgMpgagKL2NVXJwVoV67fXjvU)

Donate to Episcopal Relief and Development: <https://www.episcopalrelief.org/what-you-can-do/give/donate-now/individual-donation/?fbclid=IwAR3abFnM0h1nvAUtczbOEGEjiXaVgKqyudfML8JfyKba5YPRGwDKQD02iV0>

Donate to the Episcopal Diocese of Hawaii:

[https://tithely.give\\_new/www/?fbclid=IwAR0V0xoeoRkedLq1rC6ngMqHBrjo7Otk-LvLPQh-T8hdoeAuHm1-I5n9DA#/tithely/give-one-time/1530960](https://tithely.give_new/www/?fbclid=IwAR0V0xoeoRkedLq1rC6ngMqHBrjo7Otk-LvLPQh-T8hdoeAuHm1-I5n9DA#/tithely/give-one-time/1530960)

### **Seeking St. Martin's Representative at Saturday Meals**

We are seeking one more individual or family to serve as a St. Martin's rep once a month at the Saturday DCMH meal. The task begins about 10:45am and you will be finished by 12:15pm. The St. Martin's rep is essentially the welcoming face of St. Martin's at the meals. We also lend a hand if needed, although DCMH arranges all the cooks, set-up, and clean-up volunteers. At the end of the meal, it is our job to ensure the doors are all locked and the appliances turned off. If you are interested or want more information, please contact Janet Lane or the church office.

### **Every Person...Every Week...One Item of Food**

The Social Justice and Outreach Committee would like to remind you of our long-standing program at St. Martin's to help three local food closets on a rotating basis: STEAC (located on our campus), Dixon Family Services, and the UC Davis Pantry. We ask that you bring a non-perishable food item each week when you come to church. The collection basket is in the narthex. Your donations help us put our faith into action and are greatly appreciated!

### **Readers, Ushers, EMs, Crucifers**

Are you interested in serving during worship? We need an array of liturgical ministers every Sunday at both the 8am and 10am services. We have a signup system for volunteers that allows you to pick the days and ministries in which you would like to volunteer. (Note that some ministry roles, such as Eucharistic Minister, require training and/or a license). If you are interested in serving or have questions, please talk to one of our clergy or to the church office. Here is the link to the scheduling sign up: <https://stmartinsdavis.tiny.us/SundayVolunteers>

### **Staying Connected with Each Other**

#### **Encouraging All to Wear Name Tags**

Now that we have returned to church in person in larger numbers, we hope all will wear name tags so that we can learn (or re-learn) each other's names. If you need a name tag (new or replacement), just put your name on the list on the welcome table at church. Your new name tag will be available the following Sunday. We have temporary name tags that you can fill out on-the-spot, too.

#### **Parish Prayer List Requests**

Do you have a prayer request? Please know that people you have placed on the Parish Prayer List are being prayed for at Compline on Fridays and during the week. To have someone put on our written prayer list, use the form at the link below or contact the church office. A couple of reminders: a) **When you place people on the prayer list, they will remain there for four weeks. If you wish them to remain longer, please just submit another request.** b) Apart from prayers for the Repose of the Soul, we expect that you have the person's permission to put them on the prayer list. [HERE](#) is the link to the prayer request form. To have a person's name read in church during the Prayers of the People, please contact Deacon Margaret directly ([margaret@churchofstmartin.org](mailto:margaret@churchofstmartin.org)). The same guidelines above (a and b) will apply to the names read in church.

#### **Upcoming Meeting Dates**

**Social Justice & Outreach:** Sunday, August 20 at 11:30am in Room 8

**Pastoral Care Meeting:** Thursday, August 24 at 11am in the church library

**Ministry Council:** Thursday, August 24 at 6pm in the church library

**Buildings & Grounds:** Friday, August 25 at 4pm on Zoom

**Vestry:** Tuesday, August 29 at 7pm in the church library

**Worship Commission:** Monday, September 25 at 5pm on Zoom

#### **Rev. Debbie's Office Hours**

Rev. Debbie will hold office hours on Tuesday for this upcoming week only. **Her office hours will be on Tuesday, August 22 from 4 - 5pm.** Starting the following week, her office hours will

go back to being on Wednesday. If you would like to see Debbie at a different time, please write Debbie directly ([debbie@churchofstmartin.org](mailto:debbie@churchofstmartin.org)) or contact the church office.

**Church Office Hours**

The church office is open Monday - Friday 9am to 12pm. Stop by in-person or you can also reach the office by calling 530-756-0444 or sending an email to [info@churchofstmartin.org](mailto:info@churchofstmartin.org).